

The Parks and Recreation Quiz

Twenty questions in four rounds on seven years in Pawnee, Indiana: the department, Ron Swanson, the rest of the office, and one round you can read straight through.

4 rounds · 20 questions · about 30 min

How to run it

1. Print one host sheet for yourself and one team answer sheet per team. The host sheet has the key on it — keep it face down.
2. Three to five people per team. The first season is the one people skip, so nothing here depends on it.
3. Read each question twice, then give about thirty seconds. Round four is true or false and goes quickly.
4. Teams swap sheets at the end of each round and mark each other while you read the answers. One point each, twenty in total.
5. Read the line under each answer out loud. On this quiz it is usually the bit that gets the laugh, not the question.

ROUND 1 — Pawnee, Indiana

Fourth-largest city in Indiana, by its own sign.

1. Which department does Leslie Knope work in?

- ☐ A Planning
- ☐ B Public Works
- ☐ C Sanitation
- ☒ D Parks and Recreation

Answer: D — Parks and Recreation

Worth adding: Deputy director for most of the show, and the only person in the building who thinks the job is important.

2. What does Leslie want to build on the pit at Lot 48?

- ☒ A A park
- ☐ B A car park
- ☐ C A library
- ☐ D A sports arena

Answer: A — A park

Worth adding: It takes several seasons and one Harvest Festival to get there, and it ends up called Pawnee Commons.

3. Which neighbouring town does Pawnee despise?

- ☐ A Partridge
- ☒ B Eagleton
- ☐ C Indianapolis
- ☐ D Snierling

Answer: B — Eagleton

Worth adding: Richer, smuggler, and eventually bankrupt — at which point Pawnee has to annex it, which nobody enjoys.

4. What is Li'l Sebastian?

- ☐ A The town mascot costume
- ☐ B A prize-winning pig
- ☒ C **A miniature horse**
- ☐ D A statue in the square

Answer: C — A miniature horse

Worth adding: Beloved beyond all reason. His memorial service gets a song, and the song outlives the horse.

5. Which food does Leslie treat as a food group?

- ☒ A **Waffles**
- ☐ B Pancakes
- ☐ C Doughnuts
- ☐ D Pie

Answer: A — Waffles

Worth adding: From JJ's Diner, with whipped cream, and she has views about anyone who orders anything else.

ROUND 2 — Ron Swanson

Director of Parks and Recreation. Opposed to Parks and Recreation.

6. What is the name Ron performs under as a jazz saxophonist?

- ☐ A Earl Brass
- ☒ B **Duke Silver**
- ☐ C Sam Gold
- ☐ D Duke Steel

Answer: B — Duke Silver

Worth adding: A secret he guards about as carefully as the gold he has buried in undisclosed locations.

7. What do both of Ron's ex-wives have in common?

- ☐ A They both worked for the town
- ☐ B They both still live with him
- ☒ C **They are both called Tammy**
- ☐ D They are both nurses

Answer: C — They are both called Tammy

Worth adding: Tammy One and Tammy Two — and his mother is also a Tammy, which explains a great deal.

8. Why does Ron accept a job running a government department?

- ☐ A He needs the pension
- ☐ B He lost a bet
- ☐ C His mother made him
- ☒ D **He wants to make it as small and ineffective as possible**

Answer: D — He wants to make it as small and ineffective as possible

Worth adding: A libertarian inside the machine, dismantling it from a desk. He is also, against his will, extremely good at the job.

9. What is Ron's illustrated guide to living called?

- ☐ A The Swanson Code
- ☐ B The Swanson Doctrine
- ☐ C The Manual
- ☒ D The Pyramid of Greatness

Answer: D — The Pyramid of Greatness

Worth adding: A hand-drawn pyramid with tiers for capitalism, honour, buffets and the correct amount of intensity.

10. What does Ron do for a living after government?

- ☐ A He opens a steakhouse
- ☒ B He runs a building company
- ☐ C He teaches woodwork
- ☐ D He retires to the woods

Answer: B — He runs a building company

Worth adding: The Very Good Building Company — a name arrived at by describing exactly what it does and stopping.

ROUND 3 — Everybody else

The office, the interns and the man with four names.

11. What is the name of Andy's band?

- ☒ A Mouse Rat
- ☐ B Scarecrow Boat
- ☐ C Nothing Rhymes with Orange
- ☐ D Malice in Chains

Answer: A — Mouse Rat

Worth adding: All four are names the band actually used at some point, which is the joke — Mouse Rat is just the one that stuck.

12. What two-word principle do Tom and Donna celebrate once a year?

- ☐ A Live large
- ☐ B Spend big
- ☒ C Treat yo self
- ☐ D Buy now

Answer: C — Treat yo self

Worth adding: Clothes, fragrances, mimosas, fine leather goods. Ben joins in exactly once, and buys a Batman costume.

13. Which disaster from Ben's teenage years follows him around?

- ☐ A He crashed the town's only ambulance
- ☒ B He bankrupted his home town as its teenage mayor
- ☐ C He lost a state final
- ☐ D He set fire to a school

Answer: B — He bankrupted his home town as its teenage mayor

Worth adding: Ice Town: an ice rink built by an eighteen-year-old mayor in Partridge, Minnesota, and the reason he is recalled from office.

14. Which word does Chris Traeger use constantly?

- ☒ **A Literally**
- ☐ B Frankly
- ☐ C Genuinely
- ☐ D Honestly

Answer: A — Literally

Worth adding: 'Literally' — stretched out, and delivered by a man running on flaxseed and four hours of sleep.

15. What is the real first name of the colleague everyone calls Jerry?

- ☐ A Larry
- ☐ B Terry
- ☒ **C Garry**
- ☐ D Barry

Answer: C — Garry

Worth adding: Garry, on the birth certificate. The office got it wrong on his first day and then wrong twice more, and he never once complained.

ROUND 4 — True or false

Read straight through, no pause between them.

16. True or false: April and Andy get married at a surprise wedding, announced to their guests mid-party.

- ☒ **A True**
- ☐ B False

Answer: A — True

Worth adding: The guests were invited to a dinner party. April is wearing a bin liner as a veil within about four minutes.

17. True or false: Galentine's Day falls on the thirteenth of February.

- ☒ **A True**
- ☐ B False

Answer: A — True

Worth adding: 'Ladies celebrating ladies', invented by Leslie on the show and now genuinely observed outside it.

18. True or false: the Cones of Dunshire, an unplayably complicated board game, is invented by Tom.

- ☐ A True
- ☒ **B False**

Answer: B — False

Worth adding: By Ben, during a period of unemployment, and it needs four players plus a ledger to referee it.

19. True or false: Leslie and Ben marry in the parks department office.

- ☒ **A True**
- ☐ B False

Answer: A — True

Worth adding: The planned venue falls through, so the department becomes the venue — decorated in about an hour by the people who work there.

20. True or false: the show is set in Ohio.

☐ A True

☒ B False

Answer: B — False

Worth adding: Indiana. Pawnee is fictional; Eagleton, Partridge and the raccoon problem are all fictional too, which residents of Indiana may wish to confirm.